Appearing in other subjects in lieu of maths

2123. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether CBSE has embarked on a scheme to allow students to appear compartmentally in other substitute subjects if they fail in maths;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) to what extent this will affect the level of maths in the country;

(d) what thought had been given by CBSE before finalising this scheme; and

(e) the steps proposed by CBSE to consider all consequences before embarking on such schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) As per the proposal with Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), Mathematics is proposed to be as a compulsory subject for all students upto Class X. However a candidate who fails in Mathematics in the main examination of Class X and again fails in the first compartment examination may be allowed to have the option of offering an alternative subject in lieu of Mathematics at the second chance or subsequent compartment examination.

(c) Since Mathematics is proposed to be retained as a compulsory subject upto Class X with undifferentiated syllabus and common examination pattern for all students, the Scheme is not expected to affect the level of Mathematics in the country.

(d) and (e) This Scheme was scrutinized by the Examination and Curriculum Committee of the Board and also the Governing Body from various angles. Various implications have been taken into account after detailed consultations. The proposal is expected to facilitate students not passing in Mathematics after repeated attempts, to continue to pursue further studies.

Visa for US scholars

2124. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that U.S. Scholars from certain prestigious universities applying to the Central Government to research on various